NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

Published by JOHN B. RUSSELL, *at No. 52 North Market Street, (over the Agricultural Warehouse).*—THOMAS G. FESSENDEN, *Editor.*

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AGRICULTURE.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

FALL TARRING.

MR FESSENDEN—I noticed in your paper of the 23d ult. a few observations on the subject of the Canker Worm, and the application of tar as a remedy. After stating that many persons had tried the experiment of the tar, and failing alto gether in the object of its application, have become skeptical as to its efficacy in preserving our orchards from the ravages of that destructive worm, the writer undertakes to point out the *causes* of this *failure*, and asserts from the authority of an intelligent cultivator, that the grub when it finds its ascent into the tree intercepted by means of the tar, deposits its eggs below; and by the time these become animated, and possess the power of locomotion, the ordinary season of tarring has long passed by, and they ascend the tree over the dried tar without annoyance. Agreeably to this hypothesis, the writer recommends tarring very late, or at the season proper to meet the necessity of the case. Admitting the spring to be the only season in which they ascend the tree, the opinion of the writer is the only one naturally suggested to the mind, that accords with the fact of their escape—but it is merely hypothetical.

It is a well known fact that the canker worms ascend in the autumn as well as in the spring; and as far as my own experience extends, in much greater multitudes. In the summer of 1826 I had some canker worms in my orchard, but not so many as materially to injure the fruit, and last spring I applied the tar. I commenced as soon as the frost was out of the ground, and continued to apply it every day when the ground was not frozen, until none of them appeared in the tree. I was pleased with the idea that few or none had escaped me. I was much deceived, however, for I had ten times as many worms upon my trees as the year before. There was hardly a leaf in the whole orchard that was not devoured. To me this was inexplicable until a gentleman of my acquaintance of much intelligence, assured me that they ascend in the fall; that he had applied the tar to his own trees at that season, and caught as many as in the spring. Fully relying on the correctness of the account, I applied the tar to my own trees, on the first of last month. For the first two or three applications, I caught but few—but every night from the 4th to the 10th, when the ground was not closed by the frost, the tar was mostly covered with them. There were but few nights, however, from the 1st to the 10th of the month, in which the ground was not frozen too hard for them to escape—and none, I believe from the 10th to the 29th I tarred my trees, notwithstanding, on the 16th, but the following night being colder than I anticipated, none could escape from the ground. But the 29th day of the month was warm, and towards the evening a little rainy, and I observed the tar that I had applied on the 16th was getting quite liquid and running down the bodies of the trees. This condition of the tar seemed to preclude the necessity of applying it on that day, and I omitted it. The following night it rained and the wind blew heavy from the S. E. and most of the night, the ground must have been open to the escape of the canker worms. The next morning I went into my orchard, and was indeed amazed at the view presented by my trees. Not only every particle of the tar was covered with them, but the trunks and principal branches were nearly as much crowded as the tar. No system of tarring now in use, I am thoroughly convinced, would have saved my trees on a rising so multitudinous as on that night. They had been enclosed in the ground for three weeks, almost the whole time of their ordinary ascent at that season of the year, and when in common years the ground is open almost every night to their escape. I have always, however, caught most in stormy nights when the wind is at the S E. From all I can learn, I am inclined to believe that they continue under ground, after they enter it in the summer, not more than four months before they commence their return; and if we undertake to preserve our orchards by means of the tar, we must commence as early as the middle of October, and continue to apply it every day when the ground is not frozen, until some time in the following April But when the canker worms are so numerous as to destroy the whole foliage of an orchard, and the ground closed for ten or twenty days in succession during the season of their ascent, and suddenly opens, as on the 29th of last month, the common mode of tarring will not answer. T. W.

Bristol, (R. I.) Dec 18, 1827.

APPLE POMACE.

MR. FESSENDEN,—I am confident my brother farmer's plan, of Norfolk county, is by no means the most economical way of disposing of his apple pomace, though I may not be able to convince him of it. I admire his separate apartments for hogs, and his conductors to convey the water to them from his spacious cider-mill establishment; and, as food for his hogs, if dealt out in such quantities as they will actually consume. I have no objection to giving them their share of the pomace. But as it is evident that six or eight hogs will eat but a small part of the pomace from two or three hundred barrels of cider, I think there is great waste in giving them such a quantity. For indeed, what is not consumed by the hogs is almost wasted outright; because it contributes but very little to the value of manure, until it has passed through the hogs, or other stock, and because I am perfectly satisfied, from the observation of thirty years or more, that it is a valuable food for all kinds of farm stock. There is nothing that domestic animals more greedily devour; and in a scarce season for hay or grain, such a quantity of pomace might be turned to much better account than to throw it all to the hogs.

My farming establishment, I presume, is small, very small—compared with that of the Norfolk farmer; but I make, annually, a much larger proportion of manure, (I think) with a less number of hogs, without pomace; chiefly from weeds, and such kind of rubbish. I will, therefore, venture to recommend an experiment to my brother farmers, which, on trial, I believe they will prefer. As the pomace is pressed out, let it be thrown into a heap, under cover, if possible. Perhaps a corner of a eighty foot by twenty-three establishment might be spared, and let this luxury to farm stock be dealt out in due proportion to them all; in such quantity, and at such intervals as not to cloy, and cause them to loathe it. Especially let poultry of all kinds be well supplied with it. I prefer them fatted on apple seeds to any thing else. And they fat very quick on them. Thus the grain may be all saved, that they would otherwise consume. For if it can be secured from waste, it will serve for their winter's food. And it will be at all times grateful to cattle, sheep and hogs, and save a proportion of their food, of much more value, I doubt not, than the raw pomace in a mass to be worked into manure by the hogs alone. Respectfully.

A BROTHER FARMER.

December 12th, 1827.

From the Newburyport Herald.

Take a fresh Musk-rat's skin, cut a strip one and a half inches wide, put it round the child's neck flesh side to the neck, on going to bed at night,—and four or five nights will effect a cure in the most obstinate case.

Having heard of the same remedy for the Asthma or difficulty of breathing, and at times suffering greatly myself in that way, I was induced to try the musk-rat skin in the same manner. I found it would apply nearly as well to my case, as the child's on which I have tried, and know it has nearly cured the cough on applying the skin five nights which raged to an alarming degree.

Yours respectfully,
CHARLES B. PATTEN.

Amesbury, Dec. 7, 1827.

To kill Ear-wigs, or other Insects, which may have accidentally crept into the ear.—Let the person under this distressing circumstance, lay his head upon a table, the side upwards that is affected; at the same time let some friend, carefully drop into the ear a little sweet oil, or oil of almonds. A drop or two will be sufficient, which will instantly destroy the insect and remove the pain, however violent.

Grass Banks.—When the Belgians, who have little access to turf, wish steep banks to be covered with grass, they first form them of earth, made into a sort of stiff mortar, and cut to the requisite slope, and then cover the surface with rich soil mixed up into a plaister with water and grass seeds, which soon spring up and cover the whole with verdure.

Lord Kingston is said to have upwards of *thirty thousand* mulberry trees growing upon one estate in Ireland, and has already sent a quantity of raw silk into the market.

Domestic Broadcloths, for gentlemen's surtouts, are now selling in Boston for *two dollars seventy-five cents* per yard. Nothing is more absurd than the Southern fears, of paying dear for American cloth.

From Loudon's Gardener's Magazine.

On the Culture of the Potato, in respect to Earliness, the Curl, the Worm, and other Circumstances.

It has been a very old custom to obtain potatoes for sets from cold situations and poor soils, it being conceived that a change from such a soil and climate would make them grow better and more luxuriant in rich soils and warm situations, like removing an animal from a cold country and short pasture to the rich pastures in the warm valleys.

I have endeavoured to trace the effects, long and well known, to their true causes, and to combine the whole in one connected system, which, if correctly attended to, will produce every variety of the potato six weeks earlier than they are at present obtained, without any additional trouble or expense whatever.

Obtaining a crop six weeks earlier than usual is an object deserving the highest consideration; its coming into use at the season of the year when the poor man's garden affords him no new vegetables, when the stock of the old potatoes is become short and dear, and, withal, so bitter, unpalatable, and unwholesome; to have then a crop of new potatoes is a delicacy indeed, especially to the poor, depending so much for their support upon the potato; still more so to the Irish poor, to whom the potato may be said to be the staff of life.

I have planted several rows of early pink-eyes from ripe tubers, which are now coming up, almost all curled. Not a curl appears upon any of the same variety from unripe tubers, although planted within a few yards of each other. The last autumn being warm and long, enabled the worm to grow stronger and more vigorous to attack the potato, in which it made holes, and therein, perhaps, deposited its eggs, which, nourished by the heat, acquired life and strength; and, after the potato was planted and began to grow soft, it grew vigorous, and preyed upon its sap, rendering the plant weak and curled. I am inclined to think that the worm is the cause of the curl; and that, if potatos intended for sets were taken up before being ripe (before they are full grown), the worm will not have attacked them; and that, if it has, exposing the potatoes to the sun, as I have described (vol. ii. page 171.), will kill the worm before it has deposited any of its eggs. This hint I submit to your intelligent readers. I must own, however, that it requires more experiments than I have yet made, to come to a final conclusion on the subject.

The worms prevailed last autumn in the potato, to that destructive degree, that they consumed much of the wheat sown upon the potato ground, before they were destroyed by the frost. In this and the adjoining counties, in almost all the ground where potatoes were grown, large patches appear naked, without a plant of wheat, although the plants now remaining are strong and healthy.

Allow me to impress on the minds of your readers the facts, that taking up the potatoes intended for seed next year before they are ripe (before they are full grown), and exposing them to the sun for a month or six weeks, and, at planting time, observing the eye cut and placing it upward, will secure, without any other trouble or expense, a crop of every variety of the potato, six weeks earlier than the same variety of the potato, if allowed to grow ripe, will produce.

I am, Sir, &c.

A Denbighshire Gardener.

Restoring Vegetable Life.—This object may in many cases be effected by a powerful stimulant, and, for all practical purposes, nothing is better than hot water, as any person may prove to himself with a withered nosegay. Camphor, however, is a still more powerful stimulant; and, by combining this substance with water by the medium of alcohol, as much can be effected in the way of restoration to life, as is practicable in the vegetable kingdom. In the *Transactions of the Prussian Gardening Society* directions are given for dissolving the camphor in alcohol to saturation, by adding it till it remains solid at the bottom of the vessel. The alcohol so prepared is to be added to water in the proportion of four drops to an ounce, and the two fluids beat together, till the flocculi of camphor disappear. Plants or parts of plants are then to be immersed in this liquid, but not longer than four hours; for, if the vital principle cannot be restored in that time, they may be considered irrecoverable.

Watching the Swarming of Bees.—The hive is placed upon a weighing beam, about three feet eight inches long, with a board on the other end, on which stones of the weight of the hive are put. When the bees began to cast, (an ordinary top swarm is between 4lb. and 5lb. weight,) and when the first pound's weight of bees have left the hive, the beam will turn back a little, the same way as a merchant's scale does on the counter: but before the scale rests, it forces out a trigger, like the pin of a mole-trap, which lets off a small iron wire to a bell in the house, that gives sufficient warning to the bee-mother to go and take care of the swarm. The above method has been practised for several years by Mr. Duncan, gardener, near Ayr.—*(Glasgow Chronicle.)*

SHEEP.

Numerous droves of sheep, containing (altogether) as many as five or six thousand head, have been driven through this town, westwardly, this fall. The whole number sold in this State may be computed at 20,000. The prices which they have brought have been only from thirty-seven and a half to seventy-five cents, average about fifty cents a head!—though a considerable portion were much improved by the Merino cross. What would these animals have been worth, if the farmer's Bill had passed the last Congress? Not less, we would judge, than two dollars a head. *Frankfort, (Ken.) Reporter.*

New South Wales.—The cultivation of sugar appears to make rapid progress in this colony.—Two vessels laden with sugars of the new crop sailed for England in June last. Mr John Macarthur has been indefatigable in bringing forward improvements in agriculture, and particularly the wools of the colony. 175,000 acres of land on this side of the mountains are to be measured forthwith, and appropiated as a glebe to the Australian Church. This quantity is independent of the grant, for the like use, over the mountains. 200,000 acres also, at Van Dieman's Land, are destined to become the property of the Church. An order was made by Sir Thomas Brisbane, previous to his departure, for the appropriation of 20,000 acres of land to the Wesleyan Missionaries, who are employed in the conversion of the aboriginal natives of this country. In mentioning the improve- of these distant colonies, we should undoubtedly notice the advance in politeness. The Van Dieman's Land paper states, that the female convicts lately landed "are quite of a superior class of society," and many compliments on their personal appearance and accomplishments.—*British Farm. Chronicle.*

Porter plaster for bruises.—This simple, singular, and safe remedy for bruises, is nothing more than a gallon of porter simmered in an earthen vessel, till, when cool, it will be of the consistence of a plaster. This preparation was spread on an old glove, and applied round the ancle of a coachman, who was thrown off his box, and miserably bruised. In three days it so effectually performed a cure, that *Coachee* was enabled to re-mount his box, perfectly relieved from all swelling and pain.—*Eng. Receipt Book.*

Mechanical or Artificial Leeches.—This instrument has been invented by Mr. Salandier, and acts as an equivalent to leeches. Its advantages consist in extracting the precise quantity of blood that is wanted to be taken from the patient;—in withdrawing the fluid with every desirable despatch and gentleness;—in not causing that repugnance, which naturally attends the application of disgusting insects or worms;—in not causing any injury—and finally, in being practicable in every station, climate, situation, and country.—This instrument is manufactured at Paris, by the Engineer Dumoutiez.

CHILDREN.

The following from the Middlesex Gazette, upon the management of children is correctly conceived:

Very few boys will be insulting, or mischievous, or backward at school, who are properly managed at home. And a majority of parents, being tired of the noise, roguery and ill behaviour of their children at home, send them to school with no rules or lessons for their conduct, expecting the master in the plentitude of his wisdom and *leisure* to make them fine scholars, and fine gentlemen, and amiable men and women all at once, and all this is expected many times without a frown or blow, as though it were perfectly easy for a school teacher to make of forty boys at school, what a parent cannot make of two at home. "The milk of human kindness" in children is often spoiled at home, and parents wonder they do not grow right up at once, just as they ought to in every particular, under the tuition of their teacher.

Remedy for Chilblains.—Soak them in warm bran and water, then rub them well with mustard seed flour; but it will be better if this is done before they break.

MANAGEMENT OF PIGS.

The following experiment was made by a gentleman of Norfolk. Six pigs of the Norfolk breed, and of nearly equal weight, were put to keeping at the same time, and treated the same as to food and litter for about seven weeks. Three of them were left to shift for themselves as to cleanliness; the other three were kept as clean as possible by a man employed for the purpose, with a curry-comb and brush. The last consumed in seven weeks fewer peas by *five bushels*, than the other three; yet they weighed more when killed by two stone and four pounds [thirty-six pounds], upon an average, or six stone twelve pounds [108 pounds] upon the whole.—*London paper.*

Observations respecting the Utility of Swallows, by the Rev. David Ure, Minister of Uphall, in Scotland.

One advantage, which this country enjoys with most others, is derived from the Swallow. These migratory birds are of an incalculable advantage to the interests of society at large, but more immediately to the husbandman. Nature has, by instinct, directed them to build their nests, and bring forth their young, at the season of the year when those insects, on which they live, are beginning to injure the rising crops, by depositing their eggs for the production of caterpillars. Were those myriads of insects, with which the air then swarms, allowed to fly about, without an enemy to destroy them, the caterpillars, their offspring, would, in a short time, become so numerous, that every vegetable would be totally destroyed. One of their greatest enemies is the Swallow. The most of common birds also feed their young with caterpillars—which circumstance astonishingly lessens their number. But the Swallow feeds her young with the insect or parent of these caterpillars, and is of superior advantage; for, by destroying a single fly or insect, in the beginning of summer, many thousands of vermin are prevented from coming into existence. Thus applying a remedy to the evil in the most effectual way.—Every encouragement, therefore, should, by the lovers of Agriculture, be given to those friendly visitants. Some thoughtless people discourage them from frequenting the neighbourhood of bee hives, from a suspicion that in their flight they pick up the bees. This perhaps is no more than a suspicion: for it is probable that Swallows will not injure bees or any other insects that are armed with stings. But although a few bees should be destroyed by them, their loss is of very little consequence, compared with the advantages arising from the destruction of the caterpillars and other devouring vermin. It is believed, by accurate observers that one nest of Swallows will devour in a season, about 100,000 insects, which, with their caterpillars, would destroy an immense quantity of growing vegetables. Another advantage arising from the Swallow is, that it never lives on grain, which is not the case with most other birds.

Patent Water-wheel.—The Dover (New Hampshire) Republican, states, that "Mr. Elijah Skinner, of Sandwich, has patented an improvement in the open single screw or spiral water-wheel, called the '*open screw water-wheel,*' which promises to be of great utility. This wheel is used by placing it horizontally in a river parallel with the current; and, where the depth of water will admit, wholly immersed, giving the water free passage into the screw or float boards. In small streams, where there is but little head and fall of water, this wheel may be used in a similar manner to the tub wheel, by means of the water passing through a long hollow cylinder in a perpendicular or oblique direction. The advantages claimed for this improvement are, that these wheels may be used to advantage in slow and deep currents where dams cannot be conveniently built, without obstructing navigation, and may also be used in tide waters with the ebb and flow of the tides, or in floating mills, or at the bow or stern of vessels for working the pumps, &c.; and lastly, its cheapness of construction."

Cultivation of silk.—Considerable attention is now paid to the cultivation of this article. A number, within our knowledge, have engaged successfully in the business. Their success will be productive of much benefit. It will excite the attention of others to this employment. The following facts are worthy of attention. Four acres of land planted with the mulberry, near Boston, have supplied food for as many worms as made 420 pounds of silk—worth $3,30 per pound, or $1,470; all of which were attended to by four girls, and only for a short period in the year.—This employment is well calculated for those, who are advanced, and also for those families in which there are many young children, neither of which would be very profitable in any other way. It is said, that the best method of cultivating the mulberry is to sow it broad cast, then the leaves may be mowed off and raked together for use, without much trouble. The leaves are also more tender than those, which grow on trees, a sufficient number of these however, must be reared to furnish annual supplies of seed.—*Dunstable, (N. H.) Gaz.*

To preserve seeds in a state fit for vegetation.—Fill an old cask about half full of moist earth; then put the seeds, those especially which are not of an oily nature, and consequently liable to spoil soonest, as near the centre of the cask as possible; then fill up the remaining portion of the cask with moist earth, ramming it tight, and heading the cask so as to make it completely air and water tight as possible, and stow it away in a place to which no salt water is likely to reach. In this way, seeds may be brought, with perfect safety, from the East Indies or New Holland.

Meat.—The consumption of Meat in London may be nearly ascertained by the annual sales of cattle at Smithfield market, which amount to about 150,000 head of large cattle, 30,000 calves, a million and a half of sheep, and 25,000 hogs.

Bread Stuffs.—The annual consumption of corn in London is about eight millions of bushels; four fifths of which are made into bread, and amount to 64 millions of qr. loaves. The Butter consumed is 11,000 tons. Cheese 13,000. Milk valued at nearly five millions of dollars;—Poultry, from 3 to 400,000 dollars. Game of various quantities.

Agriculture in Russia.—An economical Society and a school for the education of future agriculturists, have recently been established at Moscow, through the exertions of Prince Galitzin. "The branches of instruction are the following: the Russian language, book-keeping, agricultural chemistry, botany, the physiology of plants, the management of woods and forests, technology, farming, and the veterinary art. The course lasts 5 years. The Society publishes a journal in the Russian language, which has already accomplished much good."

It is proposed to light the city of Pittsburg with *Seneca Oil.* It is found in abundance floating on the surface of some of the creeks, and it is said that it might be furnished for twenty-five cents per gallon, if a market was opened for its use.

Fruit and Vegetables.—The neighborhood of London furnishes it with fruit and vegetables, and occupy about 6000 acres, which are laid out in gardens, and give employment to 30,000 persons in winter, and nearly 100,000 in summer.

SILK MANUFACTURE.

About six weeks since, Mr Douglas, a Scotchman, came to Windham, Conn. for the purpose of establishing himself in the weaving of silk ribbands.—To this he was led from the low rate of board, and the great facility of obtaining good and cheap silk. He has wrought so long in his native country, and latterly at New York, that his opinion ought, perhaps, to be entitled to some weight.—He stated to me, that it was his sincere conviction that he had never worked, or seen, from Italy or France, superior silk to that manufactured in Windham county, and those immediately adjoining; nor did he expect to see it better dyed than it was here.

It has been estimated, I believe, that silk to the amount of thirty or forty thousand dollars, is annually produced in this county; but this is probably much under the present proceeds. In Tolland, also, and some of the adjacent counties, it is largely cultivated. The quantity produced by single families, varies from 10 to 150 lbs. weight.—It is presumed that Capt. Storris, of Mansfield, has raised the present year upwards of 100 lbs. of silk. Here, then, is $1000 gained without interfering in the least with the other products of his farm, besides affording an abundant supply of luxurious food for his pigs and poultry!—*Mass. Journal.*

To preserve flowers.—Gather them in various stages, from the young bud to the full-bloom blossom, and press them carefully between several folds of blotting paper, changing them into dry parts of the paper, every second or third day, untill all their moisture is absorbed, then press them between the leaves of some book. The same cautions apply to leaves, which should always be the most perfect.

Russian Tallow.—The amount of Tallow in the market of St. Petersburg, the last season, was 160,000 casks; of which 135,000 were sold at a reduced price from the previous years' sales; of course 25,000 casks remained on hand, to be disposed of at a still lower price.

It would seem from an article in the Portsmouth Times, that some person lately had a sound tooth pulled, and sold, to raise 50 cents to buy rum.

A Profitable Farm.—Mr Comfort Elliot, of Croyden, N. H. has a farm of 80 acres, on which he has this year raised 175 bushels of grain and 1930 bushels of potatoes. He has this fall turned off, in stock, grain, butter, shoats, &c. enough to amount to over 500 dollars, and has a handsome stock left. He has hired but three months' labor during the season.—*Concord Gazette.*

A Kentucky paper says 20,000 sheep have been recently sold in that state, at prices averaging about 50 cents a head.

The Egyptians instructed the Greeks; the Greeks performed the same office to the Romans, and the latter have transmitted much of that knowledge to the world, of which we are in possession at this day.

Cadmus, in 1519, B. C. introduced alphabetical writing into Greece, from Phœnicia. The alphabet then had only sixteen letters; and the mode of writing was alternately from right to left and left to right.

Dr. Arnot says lying with the head lower than the body, is a better way of emptying the stomach than the new invented pump. [This is easier said than done.]

From the National Intelligencer.

INTRODUCTION OF FOREIGN PLANTS AND SEEDS.

The following circular, addressed by the Secretary of the Treasury to a portion of the American consuls abroad, in relation to the introduction of valuable foreign plants into the United States, is made public, in the hope that the object which it has in view may be the better promoted, by causing it to be more generally known.

Copies of the circular have been placed in the hands of the principal collectors, of whom they may be had by such masters of vessels, or others going abroad, as may be willing to aid in carrying into effect a design believed to give promise of public utility.

CIRCULAR.

Treasury Department, September 6, 1827.

Sir—The President is desirous of causing to be introduced into the United States all such trees and plants from other countries, not heretofore known in the United States, as may give promise, under proper cultivation, of flourishing and becoming useful, as well as superior varieties of such as are already cultivated here. To this end I have his directions to address myself to you, invoking your aid to give effect to the plan that he has in view. Forest trees useful for timber; grain of any description; fruit trees; vegetables for the table; esculent roots; and, in short, plants of whatever nature, whether useful as food for man or the domestic animals, or for purposes connected with manufactures or any of the useful arts, fall within the scope of the plan proposed. A specification of some of them, to be had in the country where you reside, and believed to fall under one or other of the above heads, is given at the foot of this letter, as samples merely, it not being intended to exclude others, of which you may yourself have knowledge, or be able on inquiry to obtain knowledge. With any that you may have it in your power to send, it will be desirable to send such notices of their cultivation and natural history as may be attainable in the country to which they are indigenous; and the following questions are amongst those that will indicate the particulars concerning which information may be sought:

1. The latitude and soil in which the plant most flourishes.

2. What are the seasons of its bloom and maturity, and what the term of its duration?

3. In what manner is it propagated? by roots, seeds, buds, grafts, layers, or how? and how cultivated? and are there any unusual circumstances attending its cultivation?

4. Is it affected by frost, in countries where frost prevails?

5. The native or popular name of the plant, and (where known) its botanical name and character.

6. The elevation of the place of its growth above the level of the sea.

7. Is there in the agricultural literature of the country, any special treatise or dissertation upon its culture? If so, let it be stated.

8. Is there any insect particularly habituated to it?

9. Lastly—its use, whether for food, medicine, or the arts.

In removing seeds or plants from remote places across the ocean, or otherwise, great care is often necessary to be observed in the manner of putting them up and covering them. To aid your efforts in this respect, upon the present occasion, a paper of directions has been prepared, and is herewith transmitted.

The President will hope for your attention to the objects of this communication as far as circumstances will allow; and it is not doubted but that your own public feelings will impart to your endeavors under it, a zeal proportioned to the beneficial results to which the communication looks. It is proper to add, that no expense can at present be authorized in relation to it. It is possible, however, that Congress may not be indisposed to provide a small fund for it. The seeds, plants, cuttings, or whatever other germinating substance you may transmit, must be addressed to the Treasury Department, and sent to the collector of the port to which the vessel conveying them is destined, or where she may arrive, accompanied by a letter of advice to the Department.—The Secretary of the Navy has instructed the commanders of such of the public vessels of the United States as may ever touch at your port, to lend you their assistance towards giving effect to the objects of this communication; as you will perceive by the copy of his letter of instructions, which is herewith enclosed for your information. It is believed also that the masters of the merchant vessels of the United States will generally be willing—such is their well known public spirit—to lend their gratuitous co-operation towards effecting the objects proposed. I remain, respectfully, your most obedient servant.

RICHARD RUSH.

Directions for putting up and transmitting seeds and plants, accompanying the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury, of September 6, 1827.

With a view to the transmission of seeds from distant countries, the first object of care is to obtain seeds that are fully ripe, and in a sound and healthy state. To this the strictest attention should be paid; otherwise, all the care and trouble that may be bestowed on them, will have been wasted on objects utterly useless.

Those seeds that are not dry when gathered, should be rendered so by exposure to the air in the shade.

When dry, the seeds should be put into paper bags. Common brown paper has been found to answer well for making such bags. But, as the mode of manufacturing that paper varies in different countries, the precaution should be used of putting a portion of the seeds in other kinds of paper. Those that most effectually exclude air and moisture, are believed to be the best for that purpose. It would be proper, also, to enclose some of the seeds in paper or cloth that has been steeped in melted bees' wax. It has been recommended that seeds collected in a moist country, or season be packed in charcoal.

After being put up according to any of these modes, the seeds should be enclosed in a box; which should be covered with pitch to protect them from damp, insects and mice. During the voyage they should be kept in a cool, airy and dry situation; not in the hold of the ship.

The oily seeds soonest lose their germinating faculty. They should be put in a box with sandy earth in the following manner: first, about two inches of earth at the bottom; into this the seeds should be placed at distances proportionate to their size; on these another layer of seeds; and so on with alternate layers of earth and seeds, until the box is filled within about a foot of the top, which space should be filled with sand, taking care that the earth and sand be well put in, that the seeds may not get out of place. The box should then be covered with a close net work of cord, well pitched, or with split hoops or laths, also pitched, so as to admit the air without exposing the contents of the box to be disturbed by mice or accident. The seeds thus put up will germinate during their passage, and will be in a state to be planted immediately on their arrival.

Although some seeds, with a hard shell, such as nuts, peaches, plums, &c. do not come up until a long time after they are sown, it would be proper, when the kernel is oily, to follow the method just pointed out, that they may not turn rancid on the passage. This precaution is also useful for the family of laurels, *(laurinæ,)* and that of myrtles, *(myrti,)* especially when they have to cross the equatorial seas.

To guard against the casualties to which seeds in a germinating state may be exposed during a long voyage, and, as another means of insuring the success of seeds of the kinds here recommended to be put in boxes with earth, it would be well also to enclose some of them (each seed separately,) in a coat of bees' wax, and afterwards pack them in a box covered with pitch.

In many cases it will be necessary to transmit roots. Where roots are to be transmitted, fibrous roots should be dealt with in the manner herein recommended for young plants. Bulbous and tuberous roots should be put into boxes in the same manner as has already been recommended for oleagenous seeds; except, that, instead of earth, dry sand, as free as possible from earthy particles, should be used. Some of the bulbous and tuberous roots, instead of being packed in sand, may be wrapped in paper, end put in boxes covered with net work or laths. Roots should not be put in the same box with seeds.

Where the seeds of plants cannot be successfully transmitted, they may be sown in boxes, and sent in a vegetating state. Where more than one kind is sown in the same box, they should be kept distinct by laths, fastened in it crosswise on a level with the surface of the ground in which they were sown: and when different soils are required, it will be necessary to make separate compartments, in the box. In either case they should be properly marked, and referred to in the descriptive notes which accompany them.

When plants cannot be propagated from seeds with a certainty of their possessing the same qualities which long culture or other causes may have given them, they may be sent in a growing state. For this purpose, they should be taken up when young. Those, however, who are acquainted with their cultivation in the countries where they grow, will know at what age they may be safely and advantageously removed. They may be transplanted direct into boxes in which they are to be conveyed; or, where that cannot be conveniently done, they may be taken up with a ball of earth about the roots, and the roots of each surrounded with wet moss, carefully tied about it to keep the earth moist. They may afterwards be put into a box, and each plant secured by laths fastened crosswise above the roots, and the interstices between the roots filled with wet moss.

The same methods may be observed with young grafted or budded fruit trees.

Where the time will permit it is desirable that the roots of the plants be well established in the boxes in which they are transplanted. Herbaceous plants require only a short time for this; but, for plants of a woody texture, two or three months is sometimes necessary.

Boxes for the conveyance of plants, or of seeds that are sown, may be made about two feet broad, two feet deep, four feet long, with small holes in the bottom, covered with a shell, or piece of tile, or other similar substance, for letting off any superfluous water. There should be a layer of wet moss of two or three inches deep at the bottom, or, if that cannot be had, some very rotten wood or decayed leaves, and upon that about twelve inches depth of fresh loam earth, into which the plants that are to be transplanted should be set. The surface of the earth should be covered with a thin layer of moss, cut small, which should be occasionally washed in fresh water during the voyage, both to keep the surface moist, and to wash off mouldiness, or any saline particles that may be on it.

When the boxes are about to be put on board the ship, hoops of wood should be fastened to the sides in such a manner that arching over the box, they may cover the highest of the plants; and over these should be stretched a net work of pitched cord, so as to protect the plants from external injury, and prevent the earth from being disturbed by mice or other vermin.

To each box should be fastened a canvass cover, made to go entirely over it, but so constructed as to be easily put on or off, as may be necessary to protect the plants from the salt water or winds, and sometimes from the sunshine. Strong handles should be fixed to the boxes that they may be conveniently moved.

During the voyage, the plants should be kept in a light airy situation; without which they will perish. They should not be exposed to severe winds, nor to cold, nor for a long time to too hot a sunshine, nor to the spray of the salt water.—To prevent injury from the saline particles with which the air is sometimes charged at sea, (especially when the waves have white frothy curls upon them) and which, on evaporation, close up the pores of the plants, and destroy them, it will be proper, when they have been exposed to them, to wash off the salt particles, by sprinkling the leaves with fresh water. The plants and seeds that are sown, will occasionally require watering on the voyage; for which purpose rain water is best. If, in any special case, instructions upon this point, or upon any other connected with the management of the plants during the voyage, be necessary, they should be made known to those having charge of the plants. But after all, much will depend upon the judicious care of those to whom the plants may be confided during the voyage.

Plants of the succulent kind, and particularly of the bulbous family, should not be planted in earth, but in a mixture of dry sand, old lime, rubbish and vegetable mould, in about equal parts, and should not be watered.

It may not be necessary, in every case, to observe all the precautions here recommended in regard to the putting up and transmission of seeds; but it is believed that there will be the risk in departing from them, in proportion to the distance of the country from which the seeds are to be brought, and to the difference of its latitude, or of the latitudes through which they will pass on the voyage. It is not intended, however, by these instructions, to exclude the adoption of any other modes of putting up and transmitting seeds and plants, which are in use in any particular place, and which have been found successful, especially if more simple. And it is recommended, not only that the aid of competent persons be accepted in procuring and putting up the seeds and plants, but that they be invited to offer any suggestion in regard to the treatment of the plants during the voyage, and their cultivation and use afterwards.

(CIRCULAR.)

Navy Department.

Sir—I have to call your attention to the enclosed copy of a communication from the Treasury Department to the consuls of the United States at various ports; and to desire that the objects of that communication may be promoted by you, on all occasions, as far as may be in your power.

The Executive takes a deep interest in this matter, and by particular attention to it, you will probably confer a lasting benefit to the country.

The letter of the Secretary to the Treasury is so full and satisfactory, that no further explanation seems necessary on my part.

You will be pleased to report to the Department what you do in execution of this object, and return the papers to the Department when you are detached from the vessel which you now command.

I am, respectfully, &c.

SAM. L. SOUTHARD.

From St. John—(N. B.) Gazette.

SEED WHEAT.

In the Gazette of the 12th ult. we laid before our readers, such information as we had previously obtained, concerning a species of wheat, new in this country; and in consequence of the manner in which it was introduced, called "Tea Wheat;"* and on the 26th, we took notice of a communication in the Fredericton Royal Gazette, of the 18th, on the same subject, and extended our remarks. The very great importance of the subject, and its intimate connection with one branch of our agricultural interests, will, (we trust) be a sufficient apology for bringing it again, and thus early, under consideration. Our friend, (the editor of the Royal Gazette) who has taken a lively interest in this matter, on the 2d instant, states, that "he had received such additional information on the subject, as to produce in him a firm conviction, that the matter imperatively demands the most careful research," &c. The same Gazette contains a communication, relating to some wheat lately imported from Malaga, which also has the quality of resisting the effect of rust, &c. &c. We do fully and heartily concur with the editor of the Royal Gazette, and wish to give all possible publicity to those important facts.—The new crops not being broken upon, the present season of the year is peculiarly favorable for this purpose, and affords a fair opportunity to all provident farmers, to take such measures, by exchange of wheat, or by purchase, as effectually to secure themselves as much as they may think proper, to the use of the new seed; and we think it will be a gross and palpable neglect, in such persons, as omit to avail themselves without loss of time, of the valuable information thus circulated. The Royal Gazette, of the 2d inst. says as follows. "We have already received such additional information upon the subject, as to produce in us a firm conviction that the matter imperatively demands our most careful researches, and the sincere co-operation of "every practical farmer, and every man who has the interest of the country at heart." We have conversed with a gentleman who has made diligent and extensive inquiry into this subject, and who states, "that in no one instance, wherever the tea wheat has been sown this year, have the crops failed, or been tinged in the slightest manner with rust or smut." This is a striking fact—and the same individual has already bought up seven bushels of the tea wheat, every grain of which he will carefully preserve for seed, (giving other wheat in exchange) and we earnestly trust the example will be generally followed, and that those farmers who may not be disposed to part with it, will at least carefully preserve as much as possible from being ground.

Malaga Wheat.—We have this moment received the following communication:—

To the Editor,

Sir,—Having seen in your paper some notices respecting what is termed "Tea Wheat," and being acquainted with similar qualities in another parcel, casually brought into this Province, I beg to follow A. B's. example, in calling the attention of the public to it through the medium of you columns. The original sample was brought from Malaga, in the Mediterranean, and first sown in the upper districts on this river—how long ago I cannot say, but it may now be procured in considerable quantities. Mr. Thomas Pickard sowed an extensive tract of land with it, and had it quite free of rust. Mr. William Wilmot sowed half a bushel of it last year, and although every other part of his wheat grounds were affected by rust, not the least symptom of it appeared among the "Malaga Wheat." Mr. Benj. Sloot, sowed a peck of it in the midst of a field of the usual wheat of the county, and not a single stalk of it bore a rusted head, while all around the common wheat was much affected. There must be many other instances no doubt, if the facts were known, but these are surely sufficient; and the sources of information being at our doors, the matter should certainly be investigated.

I am sir, yours, &c. C. D.

"In addition to C. D's. favor, we understand Maj. Harding, of Maugerville, planted this year one bushel of the Malaga Wheat, which he expects will yield him at least fifteen bushels;—the grain of which is unusually large and full. Major Harding has also a large quantity of Tea Wheat in equally fine order."

A new variety of Oats.—Our agricultural friends will be gratified in learning that a new species of oats, possessing rare and estimable qualities, has been introduced this season into the Province. A few bushels of them, we understand, were imported by his Excellency, the lieutenant governor—sown, during the last spring, in a field upon the Peninsula—and have been found to mature and ripen nearly a month sooner than any oat which has yet been naturalized in our climate. They are productive, rise with a strong vigorous stalk, and are large and plump in the grain. The produce of the field, to which we have alluded above, will be preserved as seed for the ensuing season;

* See N. E. Farmer, Vol. VI. page 82.

it will be sown during the next in the different quarters of the Province; and should it preserve its present qualities, and continue to ripen as early in future years as in this, it must be regarded as a benefaction of the most important character. Such an oat, in fact, has long been a desideratum in our agriculture. The species, which is now common in the country, lingers so long before it reaches maturity, that it delays the harvest beyond the most convenient periods, and crowds the farmer's labor upon his hands. An oat which will ripen, as this does, before, or along with the early-sown wheat, will cause a more regular distribution of the toils of the harvest, bring the sheaf to the stack or barn in finer condition, and multiply at once the amount of food both for the family and for the stock. Notwishstanding Dr. Johnson's cynical definition of the oat—we are satisfied that the emancipation of Nova Scotia depends upon it—and that the universal introduction of a finer variety of that grain would tend to hasten the happy and prosperous event.—*Halifax Novascotian.*

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

BOSTON, FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1827.

To Correspondents.—An article from Plymouth, on BEES, and another on FISH PONDS, ANIMAL MANURES, &c. will appear next week.

INTRODUCTION OF FOREIGN PLANTS AND SEEDS.

The article on this subject, which we have given in this day's paper as emanating from a high official source, must be very gratifying to all who have the agricultural interests of the country at heart. The "directions for putting up and transmitting seeds," &c. appear to us to be (in general) correct and judicious. But the following assertion, copied from these "directions," is contrary to generally received opinions. They state, that, "the oily seeds soonest lose their germinating faculty." The *Dictionary of Arts*, a work quoted by Dr. Deane, in his N. E. Farmer, says, "many sorts of seeds will continue good for several years, and retain their vegetative faculty; whereas others will not grow after they are one year old. This difference is in a great measure owing to their abounding more or less with oil; as also to the nature of the oil," &c. "Seeds of cucumbers, melons, and gourds, which have thick horny coverings, and *the oil of the seed of a cold nature*, will continue good for ten, fifteen, or twenty years," &c.—*(Gleanings in Husbandry.)*

APPLE POMACE.

We are glad that the attention of agriculturists is turned to this substance, which in former times was considered rather as a nuisance than as an article of any value on a farm. A writer for the N. E. Farmer, (see Vol. II. page 51) states, in substance, that he had used pomace for manure, with good effect, after having mixed it with "a quantity of leached ashes, in the amount of one quarter of the bulk; this was heaped up and lay all summer to give the alkali a chance to work on the acid." The pomace, *thus prepared*, made an excellent manure for grass land. If it were mixed with *unleached ashes*, or a small quantity of quick-lime, just sufficient to neutralize the acid it would, no doubt, be found valuable as manure. But we think its best application is that pointed out by "*A Brother Farmer*," in this day's paper.—It is not good economy, (generally speaking,) to convert any substance into *manure*, which is good and wholesome *food* for man or beast.

WOOD PECKERS USEFUL.

A senseless warfare is often waged by boys, and "children of a larger growth," against the *wood pecker*, a bird which is not only harmless, but useful. Some have supposed that these birds *injure* apple-trees, and other trees, the bark of which they perforate; but this is not the fact. They are in pursuit of the *borer*, and other insects injurious to the trees. Mr CORNELIUS COWING, of Roxbury, informs us that he lately found in the stomach of one of these birds, no less than 23 borers, which had been recently extracted, probably from orchards in the vicinity. The tongue of this bird is said to be sharp pointed, and bearded.—Having made a hole with his bill into the habitation of the insect, he impales it on the point of his tongue, and is thus able to extract and convert it to food.

BREMEN GEESE.

We have just seen some young geese of this breed, raised by Colonel JAQUES of Charlestown, Mass. much surpassing any of their species,—which have ever before met our view. There were eight of them, hatched in the fore part of May, and fed on grass only, till ten days before they were killed; being then about seven months old. They weighed, after being dressed, on an average, *sixteen pounds each!* and were as fat, fair, and fine as any thing that an epicure ever flourished a fork over.

BREEDS OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS.

The choice of the best breed of horses, cattle, and hogs, which is too little regarded, is of the greatest importance to a farmer, and deserves his nicest attention. The expense is as great—nay, many times greater, in keeping a creature of bad breed, as of a good, and the value is very different. Mr. Bakewell, (of the Dishley farm, in England) rendered himself famous by his breed of cattle. His principal aim was to gain the best, whether sheep or cow, which will weigh the most in the most valuable joints; and at the same time that he gains the shape which is of the greatest value in the smallest compass, he finds by experience that he gains a breed much hardier and easier fed than others. In his breed of cattle, his maxim is, the smaller the bones the truer will be the make of the beast; the quicker it will fatten, and the weight will have a larger proportion of valuable meat.

The practice of Bakewell and his followers, furnishes an instance of the benefits of a division of labor, in a department of business, where it was little to be expected. Their male stock was let out every year to breeders, from all parts of England; and thus, by judiciously crossing the old races, all the valuable properties of the Dishley variety descended, after three or four generations to their posterity. By no other means, could this new breed have spread so rapidly, nor have been made to accommodate itself so easily to a change of climate and pasture. Another recommendation of this plan was, that the ram-hirer had a choice among the number of males, of somewhat different properties, and in a more or less advanced stage of improvement; from which it was his business to select such as suited his particular object. These were reared by experienced men, who gave their principal attention to this branch alone; and having the best females as well as males, they were able to furnish the necessary supplies of young males to farmers whose time was occupied in other pursuits. The prices at which Bakewell's rams were hired, appear enormous. In 1789, he received twelve hundred guineas for the hire of three brought at one birth; two thousand for seven; and for his whole letting at least three thousand guineas.—(*Encyc. Brit. art. Agri.*)

By proper management, Mr. Bakewell caused his cattle to be very gentle. His bulls would stand still in the field to be handled; and were driven from field to field with a small switch.—His cattle were always fat, which he said was owing to the breed.

"Cross breeding, under judicious management, might probably be often employed to correct the faults of particular breeds, or to impart to them new qualities."—"Were I," says Sir J. S. Sebright, "to define what is called the art of breeding, I should say it consisted in the selection of males and females, intended to breed together;—in reference to each other's merits and defects. It is not always by putting the best male to the best female, that the best produce will be obtained; for should they both have a tendency to the same defect, although in ever so slight a degree, it will in general proponderate so much in the produce, as to render it of little value. A breed of animals may be said to be improved when any desired quality has been increased by art, beyond what that quality was in the same breed in a state of nature; the swiftness of the race-horse, the propensity to fatten in cattle, and the fine wool in sheep, are improvements which have been made in particular varieties of the species to which those animals belong. What has been produced by art must be continued by the same means, for the most improved breeds will soon return to a state of nature, or perhaps defects will arise which did not exist when the breed was in its natural state, unless the greatest attention is paid to the selection of the individuals which are to breed together.

"We must observe the smallest tendency to imperfection in our stock the moment it appears, so as to be able to counteract it, before it becomes a defect; as a rope dancer, to preserve his equilibrium, must correct the balance before it is gone too far, and then not by such a motion as will incline it too much to the opposite side. The breeder's success will depend entirely upon the degree in which he may happen to possess this particular talent.

"Regard should not only be paid to the qualities apparent in animals selected for breeding, but to those which have prevailed in the race from which they are descended, as they will always show themselves sooner or later, in the progeny: it is for this reason that we should not breed from an animal, however excellent, unless we can ascertain it to be what is called *well bred*; that is, descended from a race of ancestors, who have through several generations, possessed in a high degree the properties which it is our object to obtain. The offspring of some animals is very unlike themselves; it is, therefore, a good precaution, to try the young males with a few females, the quality of whose produce has been ascertained; by this means we shall know what sort of stock they beget, and the description of females to which they are the best adapted. If a breed cannot be improved, or even continued in the de-

gree of perfection at which it has already arrived, but by breeding from individuals so selected as to correct each other's defects, and by a judicious combination of their different properties (a position that will not be denied), it follows that animals must degenerate by being long bred from the same family, without the intermixture of any other blood, or from being what is technically called bred in and in.

Bakewell and Culley say "like begets like," therefore breed from the best. Of this says Sir J. S. Sebright, there can be no doubt, "but it is to be proved how long the same family, *bred in and in* will continue to be the best." Cross breeding appears no doubt more consonant to what takes place in nature than breeding from very near relationship; and arguing from analogy, the result of certain experiments made by T. A. Knight, on the vegetable kingdom, seems to justify us in concluding that occasional crossing may become not only advantageous, but even necessary for the purpose of correcting defects. Nevertheless, as the last mentioned writer and Cline observe, it can only be safely resorted to by skillful and experienced breeders."

Sir John Sinclair says that cattle will deteriorate by breeding from near relations; and "the same rule holds good regarding the human species. By a train of unfortunate circumstances, a brother and sister, German, ignorant of their close connexion together, were married. They had ten children, all of whom died before their parents."

POUNDED OYSTER SHELLS MAKE GOOD MANURE.

At Holkham, in England, oyster shells are broken to pieces, either by passing them through oil-cake crushers, or repeatedly drawing a heavy iron roller over them when spread upon a stone, or hard burned brick-on-edge floor. A mill for crushing bark would answer the same purpose.—Forty bushels of this manure were drilled in the usual way, upon 27 inch ridges, slightly covered with earth, and the turnip seed sown upon it.—In the same field turnips were sown, on ridges of the same size, manured with farm yard dung, at the rate of 8 tons per acre. The turnips were a good crop on both pieces, no difference perceptible; the succeeding crop of barley, and the crop of clover afterwards, to all appearance, were equally good on both.

IMPORTANT NEWS.

On the 20th of October, a battle was fought between the allied fleets, and the Turko-Egyptian fleet, in the Morea, which terminated in the entire destruction of the latter. The Turkish fleet was attacked in the Bay of Navarin, at two o'clock. At 5 o'clock the first line of the Turks was destroyed, and their ships of the line and razee frigates were sunk or burnt; and the remainder went on shore, and were burnt by their crews. Of this formidable armament, there remain only about twenty corvettes and brigs, and they were abandoned. A spectator of the combat calculated that there were 150 vessels of all classes engaged in the fight.

The report on the Lead Mines, gives a very satisfactory view of the importance of this property to the United States—the expected annual supply is equal to 10,000,000 pounds. A tythe of which, as rent received by the Goverment, will be more than sufficient for the purposes of the Army and Navy.

A nursery garden has been established in the city of Caraccas by Dr. Fanning, (an American) for the purpose of collecting the most useful and ornamental plants of Colombia. He is also forming a botanic garden in the vicinity, under the patronage of Bolivar.

It has been calculated that the manufacture of wool, (including the various mechanics and laborers employed,) in the New England states, subsists about 20,000 families, or 120,000 persons, and that these will consume the *surplus* products of 40,000 families of agriculturists; together, about 360,000 individuals.

Sea Coal.—The annual consumption of Sea Coal, in London, is about one million and a half chaldrons.

Rare Production.—In the market yesterday, at the stall of Mr Tower, was exhibited a lot of very large and beautiful lemons, from the green house of the Rev. A. Bigelow, of Medford. They were chiefly attached to small boughs, the fresh and verdant leaves of which set off the fruit to fine effect. On one of these boughs no lese than six lemons were hanging when plucked. The largest specimen of the latter measured seventeen inches round the longest girth, by thirteen in the smaller. Eighteen of these lemons with their stems, were ascertained to weigh precisely eighteen pounds and two ounces. The display altogether was truly superb, and the more gratifying from being the production of our northern climate, offered at this inclement season. The fruit, we understand, was gathered for the purpose of relieving the tree which bore it, of a part of its redundant stock, and to aid the growth of another vigorous crop. It is refreshing to turn from the noise and distractions of these party times, to witness the silent course of nature, pursuing her operations in unfailing regularity, offering lessons of order for human imitation, and teaching that as a good tree is known and prized by its fruits, so every public servant whose political worth stands approved, should be duly estimated by the community whose interests he promotes, and be rewarded with those tokens of continued confidence and favor, which may incite him to bring forth more abundantly his fruit unto perfection.—*Centinel.*

Silk.—In Norton's & Russell's State Register, it is stated, that "in the town of Mansfield, in Tolland county, is annually raised upwards of 3000 pounds of silk, which, (in its raw state) is estimated to be worth at a fair valuation, from 12 to 13,000 dollars, and when manufactured into skeins and prepared for market, is worth from 18 to 20,000 dollars. The labor is chiefly performed by females and young persons.

The growing and manufacturing of silk is becoming more extensive in this country, and the attention of many public spirited individuals has recently been turned to it. That it may be made profitable, and a source of great income, cannot be doubted when we look at the single instance of the town of Mansfield. That town has less than three thousand inhabitants and comprises an area of only about forty-six square miles—its soil is less productive than that of many other towns, yet the industrious inhabitants in addition to their other employments from which the culture of silk does not detract, contrive to bring in a yearly revenue of about 20,000 dollars. What an inducement is here held up to the industrious and enterprizing, and if imitated, how long should we be dependent on the old world for silk?

Literary Generosity.—The Providence American relates an account of a gentleman, known only by the designation of A. B. who had volunteered and actually rendered his services, in three different towns in Rhode Island, as a teacher of a school for several months in each, free of any expense; and when his board was offered to be paid, he declined the offer. After finishing his services in one town, he left 46 dollars with a qualified female who had attended his school, that she might continue the school in the summer months. He still remains "the unknown Teacher." Under date of Oct. 18, in the Newport Mercury, he again offers to teach a school in Coventry, R. I. and has probably commenced.

At Taunton, Mass. 1,200 tons of nails are made annually, and three hundred tons of plates, hoops and machinery. At Pittsburg, there are seven rolling and slitting mills, eight air founderies, six steam engine factories, one wire factory, &c. Some of these are very large establishments—one of them has two engines of 100 and 120 horse power.

Bremen Geese.

For sale, by Samuel Jaques, Jr. Charlestown, 20 pair Bremen Geese, at $10 per pair.

White Mustard Seed.

For sale at the office of the New England Farmer, the best English White Mustard seed, by the pound or bushel.

Trees, Ornamental Shrubs, &c.

MR WINSHIP offers for sale at his Nursery, in Brighton, the largest variety of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, &c. His collection of Fruit Trees is large and well selected; and his variety of Ornamental Shrubs is very extensive, comprising the Rose Acacia, Three thorned Acacia, Gum Acacia, double flowering Almonds, red and white Altheas, Bladder nut tree, Bignonia Radican, Burning Bush, dwarf flowering Horse Chestnut, splendid flowering Catalpas, Dahlias, Daphne Pink Mazereon, (first flowering shrub) variety of Grapes, variety of Honeysuckle, English walnuts, Weeping willows, Quinces, Syringos, Laburnum, Snowballs, Rhubarb, Raspberries, Plums, Pecan nut trees, Mountain Ash, Lilacs, Larkspur grandiflora, Japan pear, Japonnica chorchorrus, &c.—Orders for any of these articles left with Mr RUSSELL, at the New England Farmer office, will be executed on the same terms as at the nursery, and delivered in Boston, free of expense.—Catalogues furnished gratis.

Bremen Geese.

FOR sale, 10 pair superior BREMEN GEESE. Apply to THOMAS WILLIAMS, Noddle's Island, or to Mr RUSSELL, at the New England Farmer office. Dec 7.

For Sale,

TWO large, well formed and powerful mares, with foal by the celebrated imported horse *Bellfounder*. These animals are perfectly broke to the saddle and all kinds of harness—will work before oxen, and are perfectly kind and good travellers. To persons wanting mares to breed from, this offers an opportunity not often met with.—Also 2 pair of WILD GEESE.

Apply to BENJ. AUSTIN, near Mr Greenough's meetinghouse in Newton, or to J. B. RUSSELL, at the New England Farmer office, Boston. Dec 7.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Corrected every Thursday evening.

			FROM	TO
APPLES, best,		bbl	1 75	2 00
ASHES, pot, 1st sort,		ton.	95 50	97 50
pearl do.			108 00	110 00
BEANS, white,		bush	1 00	1 25
BEEF, mess, 200 lbs. new,		bbl.	9 37	9 75
cargo, No 1, new,			8 00	8 50
" No 2, new,			6 75	7 50
BUTTER, inspect. No. 1. new,		lb.	12	17
CHEESE, new milk,			6	8
skimmed milk,			3	5
FLAX				
FLAX SEED		bush	90	1 12
FLOUR, Baltimore, Howard St		bbl.	6 00	6 12
Genesee,			6 00	6 25
Rye, best,				3 25
GRAIN, Rye		bush	75	80
Corn			67	70
Barley			60	67
Oats			42	45
HOGS' LARD, 1st sort, new,		lb.	9	10
HOPS, No 1, Inspection			12	13
LIME,		cask	70	1 00
OIL, Linseed, Phil. and Northern		gal.	77	78
PLAISTER PARIS retails at		ton.	2 75	3 00
PORK, Bone Middlings, new,		bbl.	14 00	15 00
navy, mess, do.			14 00	15 25
Cargo, No 1, do.			14 00	15 00
SEEDS, Herd's Grass,		bush	2 25	2 75
Clover		lb.	8	10
WOOL, Merino, full blood, wash			48	55
do do unwashed			20	25
do 3-4 washed			26	34
do 1-2 & ¼ do			28	33
Native do			25	27
Pulled, Lamb's, 1st sort			40	45
2d sort			30	32
do Spinning, 1st sort			35	37

PROVISION MARKET.

BEEF, best pieces		lb.	8	12
PORK, fresh, best pieces,			7	8
" whole hogs,			5½	6½
VEAL,				
MUTTON,			4	8
POULTRY,			8	12
BUTTER, keg & tub,			15	18
lump, best,			16	20
EGGS,			18	20
MEAL, Rye, retail,		bush.		75
Indian, do.				75
POTATOES, (new)			40	50
CIDER, (according to quality)		bbl	1 00	3 00

MISCELLANIES.

[*From the Bijou, for* 1828.]

ON A LITTLE GIRL.

BY WM. FRASER.

That beautiful and starry brow,
With youth and joy all splendent now—
Can it be marred by years?
That passionless and stainless breast,
Where innocence hath raised her nest—
Must it be racked by fears?
That glowing cheek and sun bright eye
Whence laughter wings its archery—
Will it be stained with tears?
Such is, alas! the bitter doom
That waits each tenant to the tomb;—
And how canst thou, young bud of beauty, be
Excluded from the pale of destiny!

But years will pass nor leave behind
One stain upon thy seraph mind—
Then, come, thou fearful age!
And fears that rack thy breast may prove
The token sure of passionate love—
Such is love's hermitage!
And tears from pity's fount will flow,
And on the cheek full sunny glow,
Of joy the fond presage!
Thy days shall onward wing their way,
Like the month of fragrance-breathing May;
Or should Grief come thy beauties to enshroud,
It shall pass o'er thee like an April cloud.

CHRISTMAS.

Right well our Christian Sires of old,
Lov'd, when the year its course had roll'd,
And brought blithe Christmas back again
With all its hospitable train.
On Christmas eve, the bells were rung—
On Christmas eve, were anthems sung;
And Christmas blessings oft would cheer
The poor man's heart, thro' half the year.
All hailed with uncontrol'd delight,
And general voice, the *happy night,*
That to the cottage, as the crown,
Brought tidings of salvation down.

CHURCH GOERS.

Two lovely ladies dwelt at ———,
And each a churching goes;
Emma goes there—*to close her eyes,*
And Jane—*to eye her clothes.*

Some of Billy Black's Conundrums.—Why is a short negro like a white man? Because he is not *a tall black.*

Why is a man about to take a glass of brandy, like a man going to beat his wife? Because he is going to *lick-her.*

Why is Mr. Fiddler's brewery like a public house which Jews resort to? Because *He brews* drink in it.

Why is the mouth of a hard drinker like an India rubber over-shoe? Because it never *lets in* water.

Finally—Why are these conundrums like the new novel of "The Buccaniers? Because they are hardly worth reading.

A shoemaker for the purpose of eclipsing an opponent who lived opposite to him, put over his door the well known motto of "Mens conscia recti." His adversary, to offer a more general bait to the public, placed a bill in his windows, with these words, "Mens and Womens conscia recti." This anecdote brings to our recollection a joke which may have escaped some of our readers, although the witty Joseph Miller has recorded it in his laughter stirring volume. A painter was desired to make a hatchment, on which was the motto "Sic transit gloria mundi." It so happened that he was desired to deliver in his performance on a Monday; it was not however, finished before the succeeding day, and as a proof of his attention and accuracy, he altered the motto, and delivered the melancholy emblem of death to his customer, with the following alteration, "Sic transit gloria *Tuesday*".

The day of small things.—A dealer in cat and dog meat, in London, has lately placed over his door, in golden capitals, the following words,—"cat and dog meat bazaar."

Pedlars.—About the year 1821, the good State of Massachusetts swarmed with a race of long-sided, cunning, guessing, question-asking, hypocritical, bargain-making rogues, who prosecuted their trade with indefatigable diligence.

The pedlar, taking his cargo of tin trumpets, or adulterated essences on board a vehicle, looking more like a miniature of Noah's ark when it rested on the mountains of Millbury, than any christian conveyance—or packing his needles and thread, his combs and calicoes, in a huge box strapped over his shoulders, roaming to and fro on the earth, seeking whom to cheat. His home was every where, and his dwelling-place in all habitations of man or beast. You might find him in the public room of the tavern, round the fire-side of the farmer, or snugly rested in a corner of the barn. The rising sun shone upon his path among the hills of the north, and his declining beams lighted the eternal pedlar on his way to the sea shore. He intruded himself on the domestic privacy of every home, and his inexhaustible eloquence yielded him many a penny of profit on his miserable wares. Sometimes with the hardy enterprize of New England character he crossed the mountains, and vended his wooden nutmegs and pumpkin seeds among the astonished natives of the west, whose exhausted purses and lengthened faces bore testimony to the superiority of Yankee skill in cheatage over their own ingenuity. True it was, the farmers' children had their teeth set on edge by eating sand instead of sugar, and our village belle often mourned over the transitory splendor of her go-to-meeting gown—and the sick man died after taking the poisonous drug; but still the pedlar was a favorite visitant, and his gains grew great when resting on such a prolific source as public credulity. These golden days, however, could not always last. Our political fathers issued an edict to prohibit the trade of the itinerant merchant, and wandering vagrants were compelled to betake themselves to other States. The terror of the law, for a space, freed the good people from the visitations of these vagabonds—but in process of time, finding the statute showed its teeth without biting, they began to return and infest our borders. Within a few years, their depredations have been bold and frequent. *Worcester Ægis.*

Early Marriages.—A medical correspondent of the Portland Patriot thinks it would be advantageous for females to pass their twenty-fourth or twenty-fifth year, before they subject themselves to the cares and fatigues of a married life; as the constitution of but few women can be regarded as firmly established until after their twentieth year. Every female who does not have an offer to her taste previous to that age, will applaud his advice, but such as may meet with husbands to their mind, will judge of their own fitness, and laugh at the Doctor.

A fine woman ought to add annually to her accomplishments, as much as her beauty loses in the time.

Winter Evenings.—The intelligence and often the success of farmers, depend on the manner their Winter evenings are spent. The privilege of devoting them to the acquisition of useful information, is not enjoyed so uninterruptedly by any class.—The farmer's pursuits of the day invite him to draw near the fire; and if he has a taste for useful reading, particularly for that connected with rural pursuits, we scarcely can imagine one to spend his time more rationally and happily.—Knowing that all his live stock are well fed and taken care of, and harassed with none of the anxieties of those whose business is connected with thousands, and liable to ten thousand reverses, he can give his mind wholly to the sentiments and reasonings of his author.

But many who cannot command more than one, two, or three hours at a time, excuse themselves from reading altogether. The father acts on this principle, and the sons follow his example; and thus it is that there are not more extensively read and enterprising farmers. Let us now make some calculation of the time that could be employed in the acquisition of useful information, from the age of fourteen to fifty.—Suppose that three hours of the twenty-four, for four days of each week during the six Winter months, were spent in useful reading. This would amount, when he would arrive at 50 years of age, to 11,232 hours. If he read 20 pages per hour, it would be 224,640 pages. Allowing each volume to contain 224 pages, it would amount to *one thousand volumes.* Now, what would be the result of thus devoting this small portion of his time? It would give a right bent to his mind—tend to prevent him from spending his time and money at improper places—he would become acquainted with the state of agriculture in his own country, and in others—become more enterprising, and be enabled to use to better advantage the means within his reach, and thus become a more successful cultivator of the soil. In fine his taste for knowledge would increase; he would become a more valuable citizen, a blessing to his friends and neighbours, and more likely to descend with grey hairs in repose to his grave.—*N. Y. Farmer.*

Superior Tulips.

For sale at the office of the New England Farmer, a further supply of Dutch Tulips, at a moderate price.

Also, a few POTATOE ONIONS—with every variety of *Garden Seeds, Flower Seeds, &c.*

Bremen Geese.

For sale, 3 pair of this superior breed of Geese; they are decidedly superior to the common breed, in the great size they attain, in the facility with which they may be raised, and in the comparatively small quantity of grain required to fatten them.—Inquire at this office.

New England Farmer's Almanack, for **1828.**

Just published, at the New England Farmer Office, and for sale by BOWLES & DEARBORN, 72 Washington Street, and at the Bookstores generally, the *New England Farmer's Almanack,* for 1828. By Thomas G. Fessenden, Editor of the New England Farmer

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